

February 15, 2000

KW

Jane Henney, M.D.
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

2467 '00 AUG 16 P2:23

Dear Dr. Henney:

We are very concerned about the over-use of antibiotics as growth promoters in the livestock industry. This overuse has been linked to the emergence of antibiotic resistant diseases. Many of the drugs used to enhance growth in chickens, pigs, and cattle are the same as, or closely related to, those used to treat people. The European Union, fearing a rise in untreatable infectious diseases, has banned all growth promoting uses of antibiotics used in human medicine. In the United States, however, the Food and Drug Administration has taken no action against drugs currently in use. We urge the FDA to follow the EU's lead and move immediately to ban animal uses of growth-promoting antibiotics used in human medicine.

Sincerely,

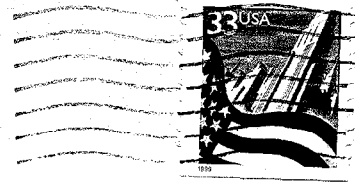
Rev. & Mrs. Daniel W. Pearson

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